



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

House Republican Caucus

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

House Republicans Outline Budget Priorities

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Members of the House Republican Caucus today outlined budget priorities to invest in education and infrastructure, prepare for the future, and protect vulnerable individuals.

“I’m confident that this year’s budget will continue to make considerable investments in education and infrastructure,” said Representative Michelle Udall (R-25). **“With the state back on sound economic footing, Republicans will continue to devote resources to K-12 education and make much needed improvements to our roads and highways.”**

“While our Democratic colleagues did not support the 20x2020 pay raise for teachers last year, Republicans will honor our commitment to educators by fully implementing the 20x2020 plan,” said Representative Jay Lawrence (R-23).

“In order to allow teachers to actually keep the raises that Republicans gave them, we need to address tax conformity,” said Representative Mark Finchem (R-11). **“It makes little sense to raise their wages only to let their taxes go up.”**

“The state has a responsibility to protect those that cannot protect themselves,” said Representative Nancy Barto (R-15). **“Republicans have made funding for the developmentally disabled and mentally ill a priority. In addition to helping the severely mentally ill, our focus on the continuum of care will also reduce homelessness and recidivism.”**

“Per pupil funding in the state is currently over \$10,000, an all-time high, but we will continue to make major investments in K-12 education,” said House Majority Leader Warren Petersen (R-12).

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